

Citizens Library Movement

ISSUE

LIBRARY NEWS



MR. JAMESON C. JONES, Corinth
State Chairman, Citizen's Library Movement

Mississippi State Library Commission

Chapter 131, Code 1930

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Citizen's Library Movement.....	3
2. Meeting of The Mississippi Library Association.....	8
Message From the President.....	11
3. List of Members of The Mississippi Library Association.....	12
Membership Enrollment in MLA and ALA Solicited.....	12
4. Librarians Are Needed.....	15
5. State News	17

This issue should carry annual reports but, due to labor shortage at printing office, they could not be included.

THE CITIZEN'S LIBRARY MOVEMENT

Theme—For More and Better Libraries in Mississippi

The 65 percent of people in Mississippi who are without access to public libraries, and the small appropriations for local and state library systems, has been a challenge to enlist public opinion for MORE AND BETTER LIBRARIES IN MISSISSIPPI. The idea of organizing citizen interest has long been considered by librarians, educators and interested citizens. The accomplishments of citizens' groups in other states has stimulated such an organization in Mississippi. When we ask Louisiana how they secured a legislative appropriation of \$300,000 for the establishment of demonstration libraries in the state; when we learn that North Carolina has \$350,000 and that Arkansas has secured a recent biennial appropriation of \$170,000 from their state legislatures for State Aid to Public Libraries, we ask our neighbors "HOW?" We invariably receive the answer, "It is the people who did it." Believing that the people of our state are just as interested in the cultural and educational value of books as are the people in other states, the Mississippi Citizen's Library Movement has been organized.

The movement in the state was discussed at a meeting of the Mississippi Library Association in Biloxi November, 1938, and the Association went on record as favoring the organization. Hon. S. B. Berry of Hattiesburg was appointed state chairman. Interest in the Movement was not promoted by a state organization and it apparently died.

The Mississippi Library Commission realized that organized citizen interest was necessary for the spreading of information regarding the true condition of the library service throughout the state. The executive secretary of the Commission talked to various clubs, library boards of trustees and individuals about the need for better libraries and the value of informed public opinion.

At a small group meeting in Corinth May 30, 1945 it was decided to organize a Citizen's Movement in the town and County, hoping that the organization would grow to be state-wide. The interest of this group was an expression of appreciation of the very fine library service given by the Alcorn County Library and a desire to see these privileges extended to all people in the state. At this meeting 17 members were enrolled. This may be called the beginning of the Citizen's Library Movement in Mississippi.

Various groups offered their influence in the state organization and a meeting was held during the Mississippi Library Association meeting

in Jackson October 19, 1945, two to four P.M. The following clubs and state agencies were represented:

Mississippi Congress of Parents and Teachers
Mississippi Federated Women's Clubs
Coordinating Council of Women's Clubs
State Business and Professional Women's Clubs
State Department of Education
Agriculture and Development Board
Mississippi Rural Life Council

The executive secretary of the Louisiana Citizen's Library Movement was present and told of the accomplishments of the citizens' group in that state. She said that they now have an enrollment of 300,000 members and that this organization is largely responsible for their present development of library service in the state. Mr. Jameson C. Jones, Corinth, Chairman of the Alcorn County Library Board, spoke on the need for public libraries and the increased use of books in his county since the establishment of a county library. He emphasized the popularity of the county library with county officials and tax payers generally. This was shown in recent increases in county and city appropriations for the library.

It was explained that the Citizen's Library Movement was not another time-consuming club requiring meetings and programs but it is rather the endorsement of the need for more books as tools of education and information for all the people. Those who sign the membership card and pay the small membership fee are lending their influence to help secure better libraries for their own town and county and throughout the state.

After the discussion and approval of the plan for the state-wide organization, the group adopted the following policies:

THE CITIZENS' LIBRARY MOVEMENT

(Policy sheet)

THEME: For More and Better Libraries in Mississippi

The citizens' Library Movement of Mississippi shall be a state-wide and county-wide organization designed to bring together all people interested in library development, so that existing libraries may be strengthened and new libraries established in every county in the state. Its further purpose shall be to keep its members informed of national and state movements of library interest so that there shall be an intelligent public opinion relative to libraries and book service.

Everyone interested in the educational advancement of Mississippi, made possible when books are brought within easy reach of all, is in-

vited to join the Citizens' Library Movement. Membership is open to both individuals and organizations, with dues of 25 cents for individuals and \$1.00 for organizations. Those desiring to be active members of the Citizens' Library Movement should join as individuals even if affiliated with an organization holding membership.

County-wide organizations of the Citizens' Library Movement shall be formed, the state-wide membership being composed of all who join the movement in their own county.

Membership dues collected in each county shall be equally divided between the county-wide and the state-wide organization. Each county organized shall keep half of all dues collected and shall turn in one-half to the state organization treasurer.

State funds derived from membership dues will be used for postage, publicity and other necessary expense, as determined by the state executive committee. All bills made by the state organization shall be authorized by the executive committee and paid by the Secretary-Treasurer, with the approval of the state chairman.

Funds derived from membership dues and kept in the county are to be used for library promotion and development, as determined by the county chairman and secretary-treasurer.

Officers are to be elected for a period of two years. State officers of the Citizens' Library Movement shall be:

State Chairman
Vice Chairman
Secretary-Treasurer
Publicity Director

These shall constitute the state executive committee. The organization shall have 12 district chairmen, appointed by the executive committee. Their duty shall be to work for the organization of the Citizens' Library Movement in each county in the district, helping to select a county chairman and a secretary-treasurer and to stimulate interest in the movement and in better libraries.

The Citizens' Library Movement shall hold an annual meeting at the time and place of the meeting of the Mississippi Library Association. The state chairman of the movement shall confer with the president of the Mississippi Library Association who will determine what part of the program may be devoted to the Citizens' Library Movement.

The state organization of the Citizens' Library Movement will have membership cards printed. Each district or county chairman may requisition from the secretary-treasurer as many cards as needed. Each member enrolled in a county will sign two cards, the county to keep one and one to be sent to the state secretary-treasurer along with one half of dues collected.

One of the first objectives of the Citizens' Library Movement will be to support and work for the legislative program of library development in Mississippi as promoted by the legislative committee of the Miss. Library Association and the Mississippi Library Commission. This will be for the passage of, at the next session of the legislature, a biennial appropriation of \$70,000 for the Library Commission and for \$105,000 for State Aid to Public Libraries. Also for giving counties the right to vote $\frac{1}{2}$ mill tax levy for public library support.

The Governor of the state and the State Superintendent of Education, together with the President of the Mississippi Library Association, shall be given membership cards as honorary members of the Mississippi Citizens' Library Movement.

The following state officers were elected:

Mr. Jameson C. Jones, Corinth, Chairman

Mrs. M. M. Foster, Tupelo, Vice-Chairman

Miss Lilly May Galyean, Corinth, Secretary-Treasurer

Miss Elizabeth Wise, Hazlehurst, Publicity Director

93 members were enrolled, representing 21 counties of the state.

The perfection of the state organization is being worked out. The president has made contacts with people in all sections of the state in securing leaders for the 12 districts and for all counties. Gradually the organization is taking shape and members are being enrolled. Naturally the idea is taking hold in some sections of the state more rapidly than in others. This is usually due to good local library service and to good leadership.

The counties of the state have been divided into the following districts:

District 1—

Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone, George.

District 2—

Greene, Perry, Forrest, Wayne, Jones, Covington, Clarke.

District 3—

Lamar, Marion, Walthall, Pike, Lincoln, Lawrence, Jeff Davis.

District 4—

Amite, Wilkinson, Franklin, Adams, Jefferson, Claiborne, Warren.

District 5—

Smith, Scott, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Hinds, Copiah.

District 6—

Lauderdale, Kemper, Newton, Neshoba, Winston, Jasper, Leake.

District 7—

Yazoo, Sharkey, Issaquena, Washington, Sunflower, Bolivar, Humphries.

District 8—Attala, Montgomery, Carroll, Grenada, Leflore, Choctaw, Holmes.

District 9—

Noxubee, Lowndes, Oktibbeha, Webster, Clay, Monroe, Chickasaw.

District 10—

Itawamba, Lee, Pontotoc, Union, Lafayette, Yalobusha, Calhoun.

District 11—

Tishomingo, Alcorn, Prentiss, Tippah, Benton, Marshall.

District 12—

DeSoto, Tate, Panola, Quitman, Coahoma, Tunica, Tallahatchie.

Some appointments have been made over the state but complete reports cannot be given at this time. The following is the report from District 11:

December 19, 1945 a dinner meeting was held at the Waldron Hotel in Corinth to promote the Citizen's Library Movement. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Jameson C. Jones, who outlined the program for securing memberships and for extending library service to all sections of the state. The meeting was in the nature of a homecoming celebration for Dr. R. B. Warriner, Jr., who was largely responsible for the establishment of the Alcorn County Library. Dr. Warriner recently returned to civilian life after serving several years in the United States Army Medical Corps as Lieutenant Colonel. Mr. Fred Vann, recently discharged from the United States Navy was also present. Mrs. Augusta Richardson, Librarian of the Alcorn County Library, presented Mr. M. B. Bowman of the University of Tennessee Junior College, Martin, Tennessee, who spoke of the efforts of his state to establish a state-wide library organization. The following officers were elected to carry on the work of the Citizen's Library Movement:

District Eleven—Chairman, Dr. R. B. Warriner, Jr., Corinth

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Fred Vann, Corinth

Alcorn County—Chairman, Mrs. J. T. Wilbanks, Corinth

Alcorn County—Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. H. O. Russell, Corinth.

The following clubs in Corinth and Alcorn County have joined the Movement as organizations and many individual members have been enrolled.

The Corinth Rotary Club adopted a resolution of approval of the Citizen's Library Movement and sent a copy to each Rotary Club in the state asking that they pass a similar resolution. A copy was also sent to the county representatives and senator. The Corinth Lions Club sent an endorsement of the Movement to every Lions Club in the state asking that they endorse it and notify their county representatives and senator before the meeting of the state legislature. The Corinth newspapers have been very cooperative in publicity for this Movement.

Mr. Jones is making plans for district meetings over the state and for increased enrollment. It is not expected that a movement of so far-reaching consequence will be a **whirl wind** affair, but that it will gradually take hold and membership will increase as local leadership is found. Some district and county leaders have been appointed. Later announcements will be made of the chairmen.

The following membership card is to be signed by those who join the Citizen's Library Movement in Mississippi:

MEMBERSHIP CARD

County.....Date.....

Name.....Address.....

(If organization give name and president and number of members)

I subscribe to the policies and purposes of the Citizen's Library Movement in its effort to bring about the establishment of
MORE AND BETTER LIBRARIES IN MISSISSIPPI

Dues: 25c individual, \$1.00 organization

Membership cards may be secured from the state Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Lilly May Galyean, Corinth. See policy sheet paragraphs 4, 5 & 6 for information regarding use of funds collected.

MEETING OF THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

HEIDELBERG HOTEL, JACKSON

OCTOBER 18-19, 1945

The first meeting of the Association, October 18, 8 p.m. was called to order by the Association president, Miss Eleanor Harkins, Associate Professor, Library Science, Mississippi State College for Women. Mrs. Janie Rice Taylor, Jackson, introduced Governor Thomas L. Bailey, who gave the welcome address to the convention. T. M. Hederman, Jr., Chairman of Mississippi Library Commission, introduced the speaker of the evening, Hodding Carter, Editor of the Delta Democrat Times, Greenville, and author of several books. Mr. Carter spoke on the subject, "The Idealism Behind Realism in the Modern Novel." He sketched the history of the realistic novel in America through the different stages including the muck-racking era and the depression. He predicted that future writers would seek a new concept of man's relation to other men, and that the literature of post-war America will carry a strong current of religion and mysticism. A reception at the executive mansion followed the evening program.

The business session was called to order by Miss Eleanor Harkins, the President at 9:30 A. M., October 19. Out of state visitors to the Association meeting, in addition to guest speakers were:

Miss Julia Wright Merrill, Chief, Public Library Division, American Library Association

Miss Mary Harris, Head Extension Department, Louisiana Library Commission

Miss Elizabeth Cammack, Regional Librarian for Louisiana Library Commission.

Miss Elizabeth Williams, Librarian Bossier Parish Library, Benton, La.

Mrs. Whittington, member of Bossier Parish Library Board, Benton, La.

After the introduction of visitors and the reading of the minutes of last meeting, committee reports were given. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$235.17. The publicity committee, of which Miss Bethany Swearingen is chairman, was especially commended for its activity. The courtesy committee, with Sarah Hunt Baskerville as chairman, reported the reception at the Governor's mansion the previous evening as their principal activity.

Mrs. Eunice Eley, Executive Secretary of the Library Commission, was asked to explain the purpose of the Library Development fund, initiated by the American Library Association and sponsored state-wide by the Library Association. It was explained that the fund was being raised by all states to place a person in Washington as a representative of library interests. An immediate objective will be to secure surplus books and library equipment for permanent libraries. It was stated that Mississippi has raised 76 per cent of its \$440 quota. A motion was made by Mr. Whitman Davis, librarian of the State University, that the Association pay the deficit on this quota. The motion was carried.

Miss Harkins stressed the importance of increasing the membership of the State Association and also of the American Library Association. She called on Miss Julia Wright Merrill to tell of the work of the A. L. A. Miss Merrill spoke of the distinctive features of the state and of the national library organization. According to latest lists A. L. A. has 80 members in Mississippi.

The following Association officers were elected:

President—Mrs. Gertrude Rowzee, Librarian, Hinds Junior College, Raymond.

Vice-President—Mrs. Augusta Richardson, Librarian, Alcorn County Library, Corinth.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Aileene Brisco, Circulation Librarian, Jackson Public Library.

Mrs. Eunice Eley was elected as a member of the A. L. A. Council. The following motions were made and voted favorably by the Association:

1. That officers be elected for a two-year period instead of a one-year period.
2. That the Association pay the expense of officers to the annual meeting.
3. That the President be given authority to call a meeting of committees at her discretion and that expenses of these meetings be paid by the Association.

Mr. Knox McCharen, Librarian, Tennessee College for Women, spoke on the subject: The Library in the Education Program. In this inspiring and informational address Mr. McCharen stressed the function of the library as an educational agency and stated that, "Education is the only justification for library service."

Mrs. Eunice Eley, Executive Secretary of the Mississippi State Library Commission, explained the points in the legislative requests, as outlined in the pamphlet Better Libraries for Mississippi. Mrs. Eley also spoke of the following measures which would aid in improved library service in the state:

1. More unity and spirit of cooperation among librarians of the state.
2. Increased understanding of the purpose of the Library Commission and the use of its services.
3. More members in the Mississippi Library Association.
4. More Mississippi members in the American Library Association.
5. More professionally trained librarians in the state. Perhaps the establishment of a library school.
6. Better library service for negroes.
7. Better library legislation, including certification of librarians.
8. Better appropriations for libraries.

The last session of the Association meeting was the organization of the Citizen's Library Movement.

Mrs. Gertrude Rowzee, President of Mississippi Library Association

Biographical—Mrs. Rowzee was born and reared in Newton County. She graduated from Mississippi College for Women; studied at Peabody College, University of Alabama, Tulane University and University of Tennessee. She received a degree in Library Science from the Library School of the University of Louisiana. She taught in the Newton High School and was librarian there several years. She worked for five years in the Public Library, Washington, D. C. She has been librarian at the Junior College, Raymond, since 1942.

The following is a MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT, Mrs. Rowzee:

Those who attended the meeting of the Mississippi Library Association in Jackson in October were inspired to double their efforts to secure state-wide library service and to make it available to every citizen of the state. Even though you may have been unable to attend the meeting, you can, by working through the Association and with the Mississippi Library Commission, make your contribution to the program.

The Association, The Library Commission and The Citizens' Library Group, which group was formally organized at the meeting, provide the agencies through which librarians and other citizens, working together, may accomplish what individuals and clubs are unable to accomplish separately.

Keep in mind the ultimate goal of the Association—adequate library service in every county, by the establishment of county libraries where feasible and of regional libraries where county libraries can not yet be established. We can not afford to be satisfied until this goal is reached. If you are familiar with the work of the Library Commission since its establishment, you know that a great deal of progress has been made and is being made. But there is much yet to be done. The goal is still in the distance but no true librarian nor progressive citizen will be content until it is accomplished. For years The Mississippi Library Association and The Mississippi Library Commission have studied the situation in this and in other states and have wisely advocated State Aid for Libraries. Only by State Aid can the equalization of library services in all sections of the state be brought about.

All those who are interested in having better libraries in the state should get behind the bill for State Aid for Public Libraries which is to be presented to the legislature at this session. Do you know why we need state aid? Have you talked to your county legislators about it? If not you should get a copy of the pamphlet from the Library Commission which explains this need and should get busy at once. Those who are not employed as librarians can help a great deal but librarians should take the lead.

At the 1944 meeting of The Mississippi Library Association, a recommendation was made that the members of all standing committees serve one year with the incoming president. Those in attendance approved the recommendation as a wise one, since the incoming president is always hampered to some extent by the newness of her work and needs the help of committee members who have already served and are familiar with their duties. Of course, this will make it necessary that the members of the 1943-45 committees serve an extra year by continuing their services through 1946 and imposes an additional year of service upon them, but it will be a great help toward the successful operation of the organization. Below are listed the names of the committee members of 1943-45. It is assumed that they are willing to serve through the 1946 meeting of the Association.

PUBLICITY

Betlany C. Swearingen, Chairman
Jackson Public Library
Jackson, Miss.
Dorothy Mildren, Librarian
Gulf Park College, Gulfport
Mamie L. Berry, Librarian
Tupelo High School
Tupelo.

RESOLUTIONS

Elizabeth Jones, Chairman
Librarian, Grenada County Library
Grenada.
Shirley Chichester, Librarian
Carnegie Millsaps Library
Millsaps College, Jackson
Mattie Viverette, Librarian
Jones County Junior College
Ellisville.

COURTESY

Sarah Hunt Baskerville, Chairman
Library Supervisor, Elementary
School, Jackson.
Lucille Peacock, Librarian
Evans Memorial Library
Aberdeen.
Charlotte Capers, Department of
Archives and History
Jackson.

MEMBERSHIP

Eleanor Harkins, Chairman
Associate Librarian, Miss.
State College for Women,
Columbus.
Louise Williams, Librarian
Mississippi State Board of
Health, Jackson.
Mary Joan Finger, Librarian
Clarksdale High School
Clarksdale.

LEGISLATIVE

Frances Davis, Chairman
Librarian, General Hospital
Box 466, Hattiesburg
Anona Jenkins, Children's Librarian
Carnegie Public Library
Clarksdale.
Ada Holladay, Librarian
Meridian Junior College
Meridian.
Mr. Whitman Davis, Librarian
University, Miss.

MINIMUM STANDARDS COUNTY LIBRARY

Pearl J. Sneed, Chairman
Librarian Jackson Public Library,
Jackson.
Mrs. Beulah N. Gilliland, Librarian
Attala County Library
Kosciusko.
Mary Moore Mitchell, Librarian
Hattiesburg Public Library
Hattiesburg.
Elizabeth Pierce, Assistant Librarian
Carnegie Public Library
Clarksdale.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Mrs. Joy G. Moss, Chairman
Librarian, Meridian Public Library
Meridian.
Alice Collins, Cataloger
University, Miss.
Zaidee Neild, Supervisor School
Libraries
Vicksburg.

Gertrude Rowzee, President
Mississippi Library Association

December 8, 1945

MEMBERSHIP, MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

(As of Dec. 31, 1945)

Institutional

Canton High School Library, Canton. Librarian, Q'Milla Collins.
Carnegie-Millsaps Library, Millsaps College, Jackson. Librarian, Shirley Chichester.

Carnegie Public Library, Clarksdale. Librarian, Hoyland Lee Wilson.
 City Library, Crystal Springs. Librarian, Mrs. Bessie Bondousquie.
 Hazlehurst Public Library, Hazlehurst. Librarian, Mrs. J. B. Spitchley.
 Meridian Public Library, Meridian. Librarian, Terry Cox.
 Jackson-Carnegie Library, Jackson. Librarian, Pearl Sneed.
 Meridian Senior High School and Junior College, Meridian. Librarian,
 Ada Holladay.
 Mississippi College Library, Clinton. Associate Librarian, Mrs. N. W.
 Landrum.
 Scott County Library, Forest. Librarian, Mrs. LaVonne L. Bishop.
 Vicksburg Public Library, Vicksburg. Librarian, Mahala Birchett.
 West Point Public Library, West Point. Librarian, Lucy Heard.
 Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson. Executive Secretary, Mrs.
 Eunice Eley.

Individual

Bacot, Mable, Librarian Laurel High School Library, Laurel.
 Baskerville, Sarah Hunt, 1505 Myrtle Street Jackson.
 Bassett, Mary, Librarian, Southern Christian Institute, Edwards.
 Betts, Mrs. Frances M., Librarian, Street Clinic, Vicksburg.
 Birchett, Mahala, Librarian, Vicksburg Public Library, Vicksburg.
 Bondousquie, Mrs. Bessie, Librarian, City Library, Crystal Springs.
 Brisco, Mrs. Aileen A. Circulation Dept., Jackson-Carnegie Public Li-
 brary, Jackson.
 Clark, Catherine, Assistant, Mississippi Library Commission.
 Corban, Mrs. Ada Foote, Catalog Dept. Jackson-Carnegie Public Library,
 Jackson.
 Chalfant, Barbara, Librarian, Biloxi High School, Biloxi.
 Chichester, Shirley, Associate Librarian, Carnegie-Millsaps Library, Jack-
 son.
 Collins, Alice R., Cataloger, University.
 Collins, Q'Milla, Librarian, Canton High School, Canton.
 Culbertson, Beulah Librarian, Mississippi State College for Women, Co-
 lumbus.
 Davis, Frances, Librarian, Hattiesburg Public Library, Hattiesburg.
 Davis, Whitman, Librarian, University of Mississippi.
 Dakin, Elizabeth, Acting Librarian, Delta State Teacher's College, Cleve-
 land.
 Dugdale, Mrs. Roselyn, Hazlehurst.
 Eggleston, Hallie S., Librarian, All Saints College, Vicksburg.
 Eley, Mrs. Eunice, Secretary, Mississippi Library Commission.
 Flanagan, Mrs. Charles, Assistant Librarian, Vicksburg Public Library.
 Flowers, J. N., 1505 North State Street, Jackson.
 Foster, Mrs. M. M., Chairman, Board of Trustees, Lee County Library,
 Tupelo.
 Galyean, Lilly May, Sec. Board of Trustees, Alcorn County Library.
 Garst, Mary E., Asst. Librarian, Carnegie Public Library, Clarksdale.
 Gatchel, Mrs. Alice James, Asst. Librarian, Mississippi State College for
 Women, Columbus.
 Gibbons, Ruth, Librarian, E. E. Bass Jr. High School, Greenville.
 Griffith, Fay E. Asst. Librarian, Grenada County Library, Grenada.

Hammond, Nell E., Librarian, Carr Central High School, Vicksburg.

Harkins, Eleanor, Associate Professor, Library Science, Mississippi College for Women, Columbus.

Hatchett, Mary Alice, Asst. Librarian, Carnegie Public Library, Clarksdale.

Holladay, Ada, Librarian, Meridian Senior High School and Junior College.

Jenkins, Anona, Children's Librarian, Carnegie Public Library, Clarksdale.

Jones, Elizabeth, Librarian, Grenada County Library, Grenada.

Kirk, Mrs. John, Children's Librarian, Jackson-Carnegie Library, Jackson.

Koffman, Mrs. J. C., Asst. Librarian, Vicksburg Public Library, Vicksburg.

Landrum, Mrs. N. M., Asst. Librarian, Mississippi College, Clinton.

Lauderdale, Mrs. J. B., Member of Board of Trustees, Lee County Library, Shannon.

McCain, Dr. William D., Director of Mississippi State Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

McCharen, W. K., Librarian, Middle Tennessee State College, Murphreesboro, Tenn.

Matthews, Phyllis, Librarian, Miss. State Dept. of Archives and History, Jackson.

Montague, Mrs. Billy, Librarian, Holmes Junior College, Goodman.

Nield, Mrs. Zaidee, Library Supervisor, Public School, Vicksburg.

Owens, Martha, Sec. Asst., Circulation Dept. Jackson-Carnegie Public Library, Jackson.

Oswalt, Evelyn, Librarian, Copiah-Lincoln Junior College, Wesson.

Park, Milton P., Gaylord Bros., Inc. 145 Feld Ave. Decatur, Ga.

Peebles, Margaret, General Library, Mississippi State College, State College.

Peacock, Lucille, Librarian, Evans Memorial Library, Abderdeen.

Person, Maria F., Librarian, Harrison County Library, Gulfport.

Porter, Mrs. Edward H., Children's Librarian, Vicksburg Public Library.

Richardson, Mrs. Augusta B., Librarian, Alcorn County Library, Corinth.

Robinson, Virginia C., Asst. Librarian, Mississippi State College for Women, Columbus.

Rowzee, Mrs. Gertrude, Librarian, Hinds Junior College, Raymond.

Smith, Mrs. W. F., Librarian, Union County Library, New Albany.

Sneed, Pearl, Librarian, Jackson-Carnegie Public Library, Jackson.

Spitchley, Mrs. J. B., Librarian, City Library, Hazlehurst.

Suddeth, Mrs. Vernon, Asst. Cataloger, Jackson-Carnegie Public Library, Jackson.

Swearingen, Bethany C., Reference Librarian, Jackson-Carnegie Public Library, Jackson.

Sykes, Augusta, Asst. Librarian, Mississippi State College for Women, Columbus.

Tipton, Florence, Librarian, Central High School, Jackson.

Towery, Guilene, Librarian, Lee County Library, Tupelo.

Turner, Maud, Librarian, Williams Memorial Library, Magee.

Wade, Mrs. F. D., Hazlehurst.

Williams, Louise, Librarian, Medical Library, Mississippi State Board of Health.

Wilson, Hoyland Lee, Librarian, Carnegie Public Library, Clarksdale.

Wise, Elizabeth, Hazlehurst.

Membership in the **Library Association** is open not only to librarians but to trustees and to all those who are interested in promoting a better state organization. Annual dues of \$1.00 may be sent to Mrs. Aileen Brisco, Treasurer, 1421 N. Jefferson Street, Jackson. Institutional dues (libraries and organizations) are \$2.50. Miss Eleanor Harkins, past president of the M. E. A. and now Membership Chairman, urges all librarians, library trustees and others interested citizens to join the state organization. The present fiscal year began October 1945 and it is earnestly hoped that many who have not joined for this year will send their name and dues to Mrs. Brisco at once and not wait to be solicited by the chairman. Why not do this NOW?

Membership in the **American Library Association** is urged as a matter of state pride and for individual benefits received. The strengthening of the national library organization helps them to help us. Many people throughout the state do not realize that they receive help indirectly from the American Library Association, though often the material or information that they request from the Mississippi Library Commission is received by the Commission from the ALA. It is fine and necessary to have the national organization for over-all planning, surveying, the collecting of statistics and other information and, particularly now, to promote the **Public Relations Office** in Washington. Miss Anna Roberts, Librarian, Mississippi Southern, Hattiesburg, is State Chairman for A L A Membership. ALA dues may be sent to her or directly to The American Library Association, Membership Division, 520 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago 11, Ill. This fiscal year begins January 1st. Annual dues to be paid are on the following salary scale:

Annual Salary—	
\$1200 and under	\$2.00
1201 - 1500	3.00
1501 - 2100	4.00
2101 - 3000	5.00
3001 - 4000	6.00
4001 - 5000	8.00
5001 - over	10.00

LIBRARIANS NEEDED

We are faced with a serious problem in the acute lack of professionally trained librarians. This situation exists not only in the state but throughout the nation. Library journals carry listings of library vacancies in all sections of the country. In a recent issue of the Louisiana Library Association Bulletin Sue Hefley, State Supervisor of School

Libraries, says, "215 QUALIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARIANS, MEN AND WOMEN, ARE URGENTLY NEEDED FOR LOUISIANA HIGH SCHOOLS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, WHITE AND NEGRO; EVENTUALLY THERE WILL BE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR AN EQUAL NUMBER IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS."

In Mississippi the State Library Commission and the Library Association have, for years, worked to establish higher standards for libraries and to create positions that would be attractive to the best librarians. Several positions have developed carrying salaries that, ordinarily, would be attractive. There are now several vacancies in the state for county librarians with an annual salary of \$1,800—but no takers.

The State Department of Education gives the following significant information about school libraries:

Group	Number	Number trained librarians	Number untrained librarians	% Un- trained librarians
Southern Association High Schools..	87	53	34	.39
State Accredited High Schools.....	315	179	136	.43
Probationary High Schools.....	131	70	61	.48
Totals.....	533	302	231	.43

Thus Mississippi, today, needs 231 high school librarians in addition to the public library positions that exist and are developing, and also several vacancies in college libraries.

The idea, that some hold, that the problem will be solved when all camp libraries are closed and when many war-time government agencies are dissolved, is a theory without foundation. Camp libraries are closing but hospital libraries are opening in veterans' and private hospitals. Other government agencies are establishing libraries. For example, the Mississippi River Commission in Vicksburg employs, in its federal and district offices, six professionally trained librarians. Large industries are establishing libraries with trained staffs.

What are we doing and what can be done to aid in the solution of this problem? As far as can be found by the Mississippi Library Commission, there are eight Mississippi students in graduate library schools this session. Several students with a library science major are graduating from MSCW in the spring. These above mentioned graduates will be our only source of supply, except for the comparatively small number who may be in the process of training in summer schools.

For schools the immediate solution must be:

(1) Find a member of the faculty who is sufficiently interested in books and people to begin library training either in summer school or in the winter term.

(2) Extra pay or a bonus should be provided to make this possible.

(3) The salary for the graduate librarian should be equal to that of other members of the faculty who hold the master's degree.

(4) After receiving library training the time of the librarian should not be taken up with study hall duties. During the current session it has come to the attention of the Library Commission that several school librarians do not plan to return to their positions next year. They say they are not using their library training as most of their time is taken in study hall work. One fine librarian says she could do exactly what she is doing without having been to library school. She feels that she is losing skills and losing time in getting started as a librarian.

(5) Schools that have a program of vocational guidance should include the library profession in its course of study. There should be available books, bulletins and pamphlets telling how to become a librarian, the future of the profession and what librarians do. These may be borrowed from the Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson. Bright students who are graduating from high school and plan to enter college may be interested in taking library training. Librarians may be asked to talk to graduating classes about the profession.

Other agencies may help. An interesting experiment is now under way in the Carr Central High School in Vicksburg. The local branch of the American Association of University Women has been asked to act as counselors for Vocational Guidance Week. Among other professions and vocations that will be brought to the attention of students, will be that of librarianship. The Library Commission has loaned these women such books as, **Public Libraries In The Life of the Nation** by Beatrice Rossell; **Passing the Book**, a reprint from Mademoiselle that makes the profession rather glamorous instead of dull and un-interesting. **Books and People**, a pamphlet that tells what library service offers as a profession.

Public libraries may help by having books and pamphlets relating to librarianship on their shelves and bringing them to the attention of young people. By keeping informed about the profession and not failing to talk about it, librarians may find prospective students. A casual conversation may influence some young person or a college graduate to enter the profession. It should be a matter of professional pride to increase the number in the profession. The strength of numbers would be felt by all libraries.

Some library schools are offering scholarships and fellowships. The Library Commission will be glad to put prospective students in touch with these schools and also to furnish a list of library schools that are accredited by the American Library Association.

STATE NEWS

We welcome back to the state Dr. William D. McCain. Dr. McCain was the first state official to join the armed forces in World War II, and returned to his position as director of the Department of Archives and History in October, after thirty-four months service in the Army of

the United States. During this time Dr. McCain was promoted to the rank of captain, and served as commanding officer of a battery Anti-aircraft Artillery, stationed in California. He was later transferred to the historian's section, and went over-seas as a historian with the Fifth Army. Captain McCain was with the Fifth Army in North Africa and Italy; and was later appointed United States Archivist in Italy. He was holding this position at the time of his discharge in 1945. He also served as superintendent of libraries in the nine provinces of Lombardia from May to September, 1945.

October, 1945, Mr. Sanders Smith returned to his position as librarian of the Greenwood Public Library, after several years' service in the United States Army.

The Library Commission enjoyed a recent visit from Mr. Joseph Whitten, a native of Jackson who is now Assistant Librarian in Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia.

Frances Davis, formerly librarian at the Camp Shelby Hospital Library, resigned that position in November to become head librarian of the Hattiesburg Public Library. She succeeds Mary Moore Mitchell who resigned to accept a position in the Cincinnati Public Library.

Mrs. Ada Foote Corban recently resigned as cataloger in the Jackson Public Library and has moved to Mississippi City. Mrs. India K. Johnson has replaced Mrs. Corban in the above position. Mrs. Johnson was formerly Army Camp Librarian in Camp Lee Virginia and in Fort Meade, Maryland.

In October the Carnegie Public Library, Clarksdale, had part of the county appropriation restored after it had been cut from the budget for about two years. This makes it possible for the people of Coahoma County again to have library service.

Alcorn County reported increases in the appropriations in October. The county appropriation was raised from \$1,800 to \$2,500. Corinth city appropriation was raised from \$1,200 to \$1,700.

The Board of Trustees of the Scott County Library was organized January 11, 1946 under the state law for county libraries—Senate Bill 166. The following members were appointed:

- Mrs. V. R. Lackey, Forest, Chairman, for a period of five years.
- O. B. Triplett, Jr., Forest, for a period of four years.
- Mrs. Wooten Gaddis, Morton, for a period of three years.
- Mrs. O. L. Ott, Forest, for a period of two years.
- C. L. Rigby, Morton, for a period of one year.

Policies were adopted and plans made for county-wide library service. Mrs. LaVonne Bishop is librarian in charge. One of the first official acts of the new board was to join the Mississippi Library Association.

The Pascagoula Public Library, located in the Community Service Building, was destroyed by fire in December. Another location has been

found and books, furniture and equipment have been ordered for the reopening of the library. At a recent meeting of the library board each member paid the 25 cent dues and joined the Citizen's Library Movement.

At a recent meeting of the YWCA Board of the Mississippi District, Mrs. Paul Cato, who is Public Affairs Chairman, presented the Citizen's Library Movement to the group. The Board joined as an organization and individual members were enrolled from the following counties:

Adams	1	Hinds	4	Marion	1
Bolivar	2	Lafayette	1	Tippah	1
Copiah	2	Madison	1	Warren	1
DeSoto	1			Webster	1

Mrs. Cato has accepted the chairmanship of District 4 for the Citizen's Library Movement.